

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 EB-11 SCI-06

CEQ-02 EPA-04 IO-14 NIC-01 ACDA-19 SAI-01 NSF-04

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIE-00 DRC-01 SSO-00

/148 W

----- 071211

O P 211736Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9448

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 18398

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, GW, UR, UK, FR, US, WB

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SOVIET PROTEST ON ENVIRONMENTAL
OFFICE

REF: A) STATE 237417; B) BONN 17243

SUMMARY: SUBSEQUENT TO FOREIGN MINISTERS' DISCUSSION OF
SUBJECT AT QUADRIpartite DINNER DECEMBER 9 (USNATO
6054), FRENCH HERE HAVE GOTTEN INSTRUCTIONS FROM PARIS
ON DRAFT REPLY TO SOVIET PROTEST ON FRG ENVIRONMENTAL
OFFICE IN BERLIN (REF B). IN VIEW OF STRONG FRG WISH
TO SEND RESPONSE TO SOVIETS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AD
REFERENDUM TEXT AGREED FOR APPROVAL BY CAPITALS AT
DECEMBER 21 BONN GROUP MEETING. MEANWHILE, DECEMBER 19
FRG PRESS CONFERENCE AND PRESS REPORTS HAVE BROUGHT LONG
DELAY IN ALLIED RESPONSE MORE CLEARLY INTO PUBLIC EYE.

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END SUMMARY.

1. AT DECEMBER 21 BONN GROUP MEETING, UK, FRG AND US REPS ALL MADE CLEAR THEIR GOVERNMENTS' APPROVAL OF TEXT TRANSMITTED REF B. THE FRENCH REP (PAYE), HOWEVER, SAID HIS AUTHORITIES--WHO WERE NOW FOR THE FIRST TIME ADDRESSING THEMSELVES TO THAT TEXT--HAD CERTAIN PROBLEMS WITH IT. AFTER FULL AND LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF FRENCH POINTS, SOME REDRAFTING OF EARLIER TEXT WAS UNDERTAKEN. ALL REPS AGREED TO RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING TEXT FOR APPROVAL BY CAPITALS, WITH DELIVERY TO SOVIETS TO BE COORDINATED BY MOSCOW EMBASSIES AFTER ALL AUTHORITIES HAD APPROVED IT.

BEGIN TEXT:

1. I REFER TO YOUR COMMUNICATION OF OCTOBER 29, 1973, ABOUT THE ESTABLISHMENT IN THE WSB OF THE PROPOSED FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY.

2. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BRITISH, FRENCH AND US AUTHORITIES IN BERLIN EXPLAINED THE ALLIED POSITION ON THIS SUBJECT TO THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES ON OCTOBER 8, 1973. THE ALLIED AUTHORITIES DO NOT ACCEPT THAT THERE WAS EVER ANY UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE FOUR POWERS "ON THE REDUCTION OF WHAT IS CALLED THE FEDERAL PRESENCE" IN THE WSB WHICH COULD BE RELEVANT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPOSED AGENCY IN THOSE SECTORS. NO SUCH UNDERSTANDING IS REFLECTED IN THE QA AND ITS ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS.

3. THE ESTABLISHMENT IN THE WSB OF THE PROPOSED AGENCY WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE A UNILATERAL CHANGE IN THE SITUATION IN BERLIN. FOR THE QA EXPRESSLY PROVIDES THAT THE TIES BETWEEN THE WSB AND THE FRG WILL BE MAINTAINED AND DEVELOPED, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THAT THOSE SECTORS CONTINUE NOT TO BE A CONSTITUENT PART OF THE FRG AND NOT TO BE GOVERNED BY IT. IT WILL BE ENSURED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPOSED AGENCY WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED PRACTICE AND THIS PROVISION.

END TEXT.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 EB-11

SCI-06 CEQ-02 IO-14 EPA-04 NIC-01 ACDA-19 SAJ-01

NSF-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 DRC-01 USIE-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 18398

2. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THE AD REFERENDUM TEXT ABOVE ACCEPTABLE. DURING AND AFTER THE BONN GROUP MEETING, FRG REP (LUECKING) MADE CLEAR TO US THAT THE GERMANS ARE NOW PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN GETTING A RESPONSE DELIVERED IN MOSCOW AND ARE THEREFORE PREPARED TO BE VERY FLEXIBLE ON FRENCH POINTS IN ORDER TO SECURE FRENCH AGREEMENT TO SENDING THE REPLY NOW. IN VIEW OF THE LONG DELAY IN DELIVERING THE REPLY (REF A), WE ARE INCLINED TO AGREE. RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT APPROVE TEXT ABOVE.

3. DECEMBER 20 PRESS CONFERENCE BY ACTING FRG SPOKESMAN GRUENEWALD MADE PUBLIC REFERENCE FOR THE FIRST TIME TO LINKING BETWEEN FEDERAL CABINET DECISION APPROVING LAW ESTABLISHING ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE IN BERLIN AND ALLIED
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RESPONSE TO SOVIET NOTE OF OCTOBER 29. IN ANSWER TO QUESTION WHY THE CABINET DID NOT TAKE A FORMAL DECISION ON THE LAW DECEMBER 19, GRUENEWALD SAID THE CABINET WISHED TO WAIT "UNTIL THE THREE WESTERN ALLIES HAVE ANSWERED THE SECOND NOTE OF THE SOVIET UNION. THERE IS NO OTHER GROUND (FOR THE DELAY) THAN THIS." GRUENEWALD ADDED IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION THAT THE FRG DID NOT WISH TO PUT THE ALLIES "UNDER TIME PRESSURE."

4. OBVIOUSLY WELL-INFORMED STORIES APPEARED IN DIE WELT AND BONN'S GENERAL ANZEIGER DECEMBER 20. STORY IN DIE WELT SET OUT IN MUCH GREATER DETAIL THAN HAD PREVIOUSLY APPEARED IN FRG MEDIA THE CHRONOLOGY OF SOVIET PROTEST AND ALLIED RESPONSE ON ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE SO FAR. AGAIN, BOTH ALLIED DELAY IN RESPONDING TO SOVIET PROTEST AND LINK BETWEEN ALLIED RESPONSE AND CABINET DECISION APPEARED PROMINENTLY. COMMENT: ALLIED REPS MADE CLEAR TO LUECKING AT DECEMBER 21 MEETING THEIR DISAPPOINTMENT THAT MATTER HAD LEAKED SO FULLY TO MEDIA, PARTICULARLY AT A TIME WHEN ALLIES WERE IN FACT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A POSITION TO AGREE ON A REPLY TO THE SOVIETS.
HILLENBRAND

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